

Date: September 14, 2007
To: Joint Policy Committee
From: Ken Kirkey, Planning Director
Subject: FOCUS – Priority Conservation Area Progress Report

Overview

FOCUS, a regional incentive-based development and conservation strategy for the Bay Area, includes a program to nominate and protect Priority Conservation Areas. Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) represent near-term, regionally significant land conservation opportunities in the nine-county Bay Area.

Priority Conservation Areas

The PCA nomination deadline was August 17, 2007. The PCAs represent the region's near-term conservation opportunities relative to acquisition or conservation easements. Nominations for over 100 PCAs were received from 55 different entities, including 21 local jurisdictions, open space agencies, and conservation groups. The nominations range from small areas in San Francisco that complete open space linkages to large landscapes of redwood, pine, and oak forests along the Sonoma County coast. ABAG staff is compiling and reviewing nominations relative to criteria related to regional significance, level of consensus, and urgency for protection.

The State Coastal Conservancy's San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program is convening meetings in each of the nine counties in September to discuss the proposed PCAs. The Coastal Conservancy Program is the primary conduit for state-level open space acquisition spending related to state-level bond measures, including Proposition 84. FOCUS PCAs will provide the Conservancy with a key indicator of near-term (1-5 year) land conservation opportunities (acquisition or conservation easement) in the region. Subsequently, a regional review panel composed of open space experts from the nine counties as well as other stakeholder representatives will provide input relative to staff recommendations at a meeting in mid-October. As directed by the ABAG Regional Planning Committee, the review panel will encompass representatives from regional economic development and housing interests. Representatives from Non-Profit Housing, Silicon Valley Leadership Group and the Urban Land Institute have been asked to serve on the Panel. The staff's PCA recommendations will be presented at the joint ABAG-MTC Fall Forum - *Bay Area on the Move*, on October 26, 2007 and considered for adoption by the Executive Board at the Board's November meeting.

Priority Conservation Area Nominations Received (August 17, 2007)

	Area Name	County
1	Alameda Naval Air Station Area	Alameda
2	Albany Hill	Alameda
3	Albany Waterfront	Alameda
4	Area 4, City of Newark, Also known as Pintail and Whistling Wings Duck Clubs	Alameda
5	Bethany Reservoir Area	Alameda
6	Butters Canyon/Headwaters of Peralta Creek	Alameda
7	Cedar Mountain Area	Alameda
8	Chain of Lakes Area	Alameda
9	Duarte Canyon Area	Alameda
10	East Bay Greenway	Alameda
11	Fremont-Coyote Tract	Alameda
12	Gill Tract	Alameda
13	Leona Canyon Creek Tributaries	Alameda
14	North Livermore, South Livermore Valley	Alameda
15	Oak Knoll	Alameda
16	Patterson Ranch – Lands west of Ardenwood Boulevard and Paseo Padre Parkway	Alameda
17	Potential Doolan Area	Alameda
18	Potential Oakland Gateway Area	Alameda
19	Potential Tesla Area	Alameda
20	Ridgemont West	Alameda
21	Site 1-Coyote Hills	Alameda
22	Site 2- SF Bay Trail	Alameda
23	Site 3- Sabercat	Alameda
24	South Hills, San Leandro Creek	Alameda
25	Temescal Creek/North Oakland	Alameda
26	Union City Hillside Area	Alameda
27	Regional Trails System Gaps	Alameda & Contra Costa Counties
28	San Francisco Bay Trail – Bay Area Ridge Trail	Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano and Sonoma counties
29	Acalanes Ridge Open Space	Contra Costa
30	Big Canyon Preserve	Contra Costa
31	Bollinger Valley Study Area	Contra Costa
32	Burton Ridge	Contra Costa
33	Central Hercules and Waterfront District	Contra Costa
34	Contra Costa Agricultural Core (Ag Core)	Contra Costa
35	Contra Costa County Agricultural Core	Contra Costa
36	Delta Recreation Area	Contra Costa
37	East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan / Natural Community Conservation Plan (ECCC HCP/NCCP)	Contra Costa
38	Fossil Creek, an Annex to El Cerrito Natural Area	Contra Costa
39	Indian Valley	Contra Costa
40	Indian Valley 1.5 dwelling units per acre area	Contra Costa

	Area Name	County
41	Lafayette Ridge	Contra Costa
42	MOSO and NON-MOSO Open Space	Contra Costa
43	North Richmond Shoreline	Contra Costa
44	North Richmond Wetlands Area	Contra Costa
45	Pittsburg-Antioch Shoreline Area	Contra Costa
46	Point Edith Wetlands Area	Contra Costa
47	Point Molate Area	Contra Costa
48	Potential Byron Area	Contra Costa
49	Potential Concord Naval Weapons Station Area	Contra Costa
50	Potential Deer Valley Area	Contra Costa
51	Potential Pinole Watershed Area	Contra Costa
52	3rd Valley Creek/Chicken Ranch Beach Conservation Area	Marin
53	Big Rock Ridge Lands	Marin
54	Binford Road	Marin
55	Bothin Waterfront	Marin
56	Bowman Canyon	Marin
57	Central Marin Bayfront, Canalways	Marin
58	Central Marin Bayfront, Madera Bay Park	Marin
59	Central Marin Ridge lands	Marin
60	Hanna Ranch	Marin
61	Marin City Ridge	Marin
62	Marin County Agricultural Lands	Marin
63	North County Gateway	Marin
64	North GGNRA Lagunitas Creek Parcels	Marin
65	San Geronimo Valley headwaters of the Lagunitas Watershed and shore of Tomales Bay	Marin
66	Silveira Property	Marin
67	St. Vincent's Property	Marin
68	Tiburon Ridge Lands	Marin
69	Tomales Dunes	Marin
70	Blue Oak Woodlands of the Lake District	Napa
71	Bothe-Napa Valley State Park to Sugarloaf Ridge State Park Priority Conservation Area	Napa
72	Interior Mountains – Moore Creek to Milliken Creek	Napa
73	Napa County Agricultural Lands and Watersheds	Napa
74	Napa Valley - Napa River Corridor	Napa
75	Napa Valley - Western Mountains	Napa
76	Palisades—Mt St Helena to Anqwin	Napa
77	Redwood & Dry Creek Watersheds Priority Conservation Area	Napa
78	Southern Mountains -- Skyline Park to Newell Preserve	Napa
79	7th & Lawton open space	San Francisco
80	Aquavista/Twin Peaks	San Francisco
81	Bayview Hill radio property	San Francisco
82	Brotherhood Way	San Francisco
83	Crestmont Hills	San Francisco
84	Hunters Point serpentine hillside	San Francisco

	Area Name	County
85	Palou-Phelps, Bayview	San Francisco
86	Sutro Tower, Inc	San Francisco
87	Burnham Strip / El Granada Waterfront	San Mateo
88	Gateway to the San Mateo County Coast	San Mateo
89	Upper San Gregorio Creek Headwaters	San Mateo
90	Lobitos Ridge Corridor	San Mateo
91	Menlo Park Baylands Region	San Mateo
92	Montara Mountain Complex	San Mateo
93	Pacifica Conservation Area: South of Mussell Rock to McNee Ranch State Park	San Mateo
94	Redwood City Bayfront Tidal Plain Area	San Mateo
95	San Francisco Watershed Lands to Wilder Ranch State Park Priority Conservation Area	San Mateo, Santa Clara (& Santa Cruz) County, Santa Cruz Mountains
96	Alum Rock Foothills	Santa Clara
97	Anderson/CoyoteConnection	Santa Clara
98	Baylands	Santa Clara
99	Coyote Ridge	Santa Clara
100	East Berryessa Foothills	Santa Clara
101	East Coyote Foothills to Almaden Quicksilver	Santa Clara
102	East Gilroy Foothills	Santa Clara
103	Francia Property	Santa Clara
104	Hwy 152 Agriculture	Santa Clara
105	Joseph D. Grant to Coyote Ridge	Santa Clara
106	Las Animas	Santa Clara
107	Lexington Hills	Santa Clara
108	Pacheco Corridor	Santa Clara
109	Palassou	Santa Clara
110	Rancho Canada	Santa Clara
111	San Antone	Santa Clara
112	Sanborn Skyline	Santa Clara
113	Soap Lake	Santa Clara
114	South County Agriculture	Santa Clara
115	South County Regional Trail Connection	Santa Clara
116	Summit Ridge	Santa Clara
117	Tulare Hill/Fisher Creek/Coyote Valley	Santa Clara
118	Upper Los Gatos Creek Watershed	Santa Clara
119	Upper Stevens Creek Watershed Area	Santa Clara
120	Blue Ridge Hills (Vaca Mountains)	Solano
121	Tri City and County Cooperative Planning Area	Solano
122	Vacaville-Fairfield-Solano Greenbelt and Cement Hill	Solano
123	Western Hills	Solano
124	Coastal Access and Resource Protection	Sonoma
125	Coastal Agriculture	Sonoma
126	Coastal Redwood Forestland	Sonoma
127	Coastal Sonoma to Armstrong Redwoods	Sonoma
128	Laguna de Santa Rosa	Sonoma
129	Lower Sonoma Creek Baylands	Sonoma

	Area Name	County
130	Northern Mayacamas	Sonoma
131	Petaluma Watershed Southeastern Portion	Sonoma
132	Pitkin Marsh – Atascadero Creek Watershed	Sonoma
133	Russian River Access	Sonoma
134	Santa Rosa Plain	Sonoma
135	Sonoma Baylands	Sonoma
136	Sonoma County Gateway	Sonoma
137	Sonoma Mountain	Sonoma
138	The Cedars	Sonoma
139	Upper Mark West Watershed	Sonoma